

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 00574 241344Z

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 OES-07 /026 W

-----118289 241346Z /43

P R 241201Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 842

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

USLO RIYADH

UNCLAS JIDDA 0574

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, SA

SUBJ: PROPOSED WATER RESOURCES TRADE MISSION - JUNE 1978

REF: STATE 2430

1. FLIGHTS TO SANA FROM JIDDA INVARIABLY OCCUR IN A.M. SCHEDULE FOR JIDDA FINE BUT JUNE 9 WOULD BE A NON-BUSINESS WEEKEND HOLIDAY HERE. ALSO FRIDAY RECEPTIONS GENERALLY POORLY ATTENDED SO RECEPTION WOULD BE ON JUNE 10 UNLESS EARLIER DEPARTURE FROM RIYADH WOULD ALLOW 7-9 P.M. RECEPTION JUNE 8.

2. PRODUCT CONTENT RECOMMENDED EARLIER FOR JANUARY 1977 WATER RESOURCES TM STILL VALID. THERE IS CURRENTLY, HOWEVER, MUCH INTEREST IN WATER RECYCLING SYSTEMS PARTICULARLY IN RIYADH AND FOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL. WATER STORAGE SYSTEMS ALSO RETAIN HIGH PRIORITY. PLUMBING SYSTEMS FOR HIGH RISE BUILDINGS NOW BEING PLANNED IN ALL MAJOR CITIES ALSO WILL PROVIDE GOOD OPPORTUNITIES FOR US FIRMS HANDLING THIS PRODUCT LINE. RAIN WATER DRAINAGE SYSTEMS CONTRACTS FOR MECCA HAVE BEEN RECENTLY SIGNED WITH REDEC, LARGE LOCAL FIRM, FOR VALUE OF OVER UNCLASSIFIED

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SR 678 MILLION. URBAN PROGRAMS FOR JUBAIL AND YENBO WILL CALL FOR BUILT-IN WATER DISTRIBUTION PROJECTS AS WELL AS WASTE WATER DISPOSAL PROJECTS. IRRIGATION FOR AGRICULTURE IN GASSIM AND ASIR AREAS IS ASSUMING NEW IMPORTANCE AS COUNTRY GOES FORWARD WITH THIS PHASE OF 5-YEAR PLAN WHICH HAS RECEIVED LESS ATTENTION THAN HIGHLY NEEDED INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS. WATER WELL DRILLING

MACHINERY ALL KINDS STILL IN HEAVY DEMAND AND INCREASE IS FORESEEABLE AS SOON AS WORK COMMENCE ON 800 MILE OIL AND GAS PIPELINES FROM EASTERN PROVINCE TO YENBO. SOME ESTIMATES INDICATE NEED FOR WATER WELLS EVERY 20 MILES AND MOST WILL BE FOR DEEP DRILLING DOWN TO 1500 FEET. ALSO WIDE, 3 METER DIAMETER, SHALLOW WELLS WILL BE DRILLED.

3. CONTRACTS ISSUED TO SAUDI AND FOREIGN FIRM IN PAST YEAR FOR WATER, SEWAGE AND STORAGE DAM PROJECTS THROUGHOUT KINGDOM TOTAL OVER \$1.1 BILLION INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING STORM DRAINS IN KHAMIS MUSHAIT, MECCA AND JIDDA; WATER TREATMENT AND STORAGE AT RIYADH, MEDINA, BURAIDAH, MECCA; DAMS AT NAJRAN AND ABHA, WATER DISTRIBUTION AT ABHA, RIYADH, JIDDA, KHARJ.

4. MINISTRY OF MUNICIPALITIES HAS \$130 MILLION BUDGET FOR WATER AND WELLS DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY IN RIYADH. MECCA, TAIF, MEDINA, HASA AND EASTERN PROVINCE. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER HAS APPROVED ANOTHER \$90 MILLION FOR POTABLE WATER PROJECTS THIS YEAR AND \$93 MILLION FOR NEW DAM CONSTRUCTION OVER NEXT THREE YEARS.  
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